

COUNTRY East Germany

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TOPIC Military Information from Dessau-Rosslau

25X1X	EVALUATION	PLACE OBTAINED	25X1C
25X1C	DATE OF CONTENT		
25X1C	DATE OBTAINED	DATE PREPARED 12 March 1953	
REFERENCES			
PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)			
REMARKS			

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1. On 18 February 1953, the barracks installation in Rosslau, in the area between the railroad line to Wittenberg and Highway No 187, was occupied by about 5,000 to 6,000 troops. Sentries observed wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery and tank insignia. From 5 to 18 February, an undetermined number tanks practiced driving at the former demolition place, and four SU-100 guns were seen en route toward Luko. Source expressed the belief that about 50 to 60 tanks and about 20 SU-100 guns were in the installation. Six 76.2-mm field guns, each with a crew of 12 to 15 men, were seen on the road to Coswig. On 17 February, about 500 troops armed with carbines and submachine guns received infantry training, and six mortars were seen at the road to Coswig. About 12 amphibious vehicles were in the area north of the installation.

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2. On 16 February, the cantonment east of Gross Kuehnau and west of Dessau was occupied by about 2,000 troops. Sentries observed wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia. From 26 January to 3 February, an undetermined number tanks and SU-100 guns were in the camp. On 26 January, about 400 soldiers were engaged in field training in the area south of the Elbe River near Kuehnau and, on 1 and 3 February, small-scale engineer practices were observed on the Elbe River. Between 10 and 16 February, tanks were being maintained by troops in the barracks area.

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3. On 9 February, the cantonment east of Gross Kuehnau was occupied to capacity by troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets including some with tank insignia. Six tanks left the installation.

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1. Comment. The bulk of the 7th Gds Tank Div can be confirmed in their known quarters until mid-February 1953. This information tends to indicate that the cantonment east of Gross Kuehnau is occupied by a medium tank regiment of the division. Thus, the barracks installation in Rosslau should be occupied by the heavy tank and SP gun regiment and the other two medium tank regiments of the

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division which would roughly correspond to the information on tanks observed in the installation, although the number of tanks is underestimated. The amphibious vehicles possibly belong to the 121st (?) Gds Engr Bn of the 7th Gds Tank Div.

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